

## John Henry Eaton to Andrew Jackson, January 21, 1828, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

JOHN H. EATON TO JACKSON.

Washington, January 21, 1828.

*D'r sir*, I am constantly importuned by your friends here, to write you, and urge you by no means to notice Clays Book<sup>1</sup> which has *fallen still* born from the press. My answer to them, is, *fear not*, genl Jackson will not so far insult his friends as to take his own cause into his own hands, or from his friends!!! You will have seen by the Telegraph, that the

<sup>1</sup> This refers to Clay's "Address" concerning Jackson's charges of bargain and corruption. It was published in December, 1827. See *Niles' Register*, XXXIII. 296–315.

Jackson Committee of correspondence,<sup>2</sup> at this place, intend taking up this matter: a rampart of facts will be forth coming now I think, over and around which, clay with all his host of compurgators will scarcely be able to get 'round: they are waiting for some facts which I understand will very shortly be at hand. He will find some new accusers, and stronger than any that have yet appeared

<sup>2</sup> During this winter several of these committees were organized in such cities as Nashville, Washington, Philadelphia, and Cincinnati.

Mr. Calhoun has lately found out, that you have a private letter of Monroe; the one you showed me, last fall. Would you have any objection to send me, a Copy of it, merely that he may see it, I myself retaining it in my own possession. He thinks it must be of the date of the 7. of August 1818; and that the design of Monroe in writing it, was he well knows of the most favorable kind towards you; and begs me to say, that he is fully aware, Mr

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Monroes feelings in relation to that Semenole affair were never otherwise than sincere and firm towards you. Be this as it may, I should be glad, if proper, to procure a copy of the letter which shall rest with me to be used as I have before stated. As regards Monroe, your course of policy is to notice nothing respecting him; indeed the news papers, happen what may, should be altogether avoided There let your friends who are fully competent battle the affair; your course under any and all circumstances is *retirement* and *silence*. All things are well, and some act of indiscretion might joperdise matters as they are now. Let us look to the main battle without regard to the small picket guards that, may come into conflict, with each other.

The die is cast, and the contest over; under no circumstances, as indicated by the present *signs of the times* can your vote be less than 170.3 It cannot but be complimentary to you, to know that a majority of both Houses in Congress are your friends and advocates. They will take care of your cause and interest without any interference on your part; they only ask of you under any and all circumstances to be *still* and let them manage whatever is to be done

3 Jackson received 178 electoral votes.

With my kind and sincere regard to mrs Jackson

I am very truly yours